

RAT

Blast her pride, O ye blest gods! so will you wish on me,
when the *rat* mood is on me. *Shakefp.*
I have scarce leisure to salute you,
My matter is so *rat*. *Shakefp. Troilus and Cressida.*
Be not *rat* with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be
hafty to utter any thing before God; for God is in heaven,
and thou upon earth; therefore let thy words be few. *Ecluf.*
Her *rat* hand in evil hour,
Forth reaching to the fruit, she pluck'd, she eat. *Milton.*
RASH. *n. f.* [*rafcia*, Italian.]
1. Sattin. *Minshew.*
2. [Corrupted probably from *raf*.] An efflorescence on the
body; a breaking out.
RA'SHER. *n. f.* [*rafura lardi*, Lat.] A thin slice of bacon.
If we grow all to be pork eaters, we shall not shortly have
a *rafher* on the coals for money. *Shakefp. Merch. of Venice.*
White and black was all her homely cheer,
And *rafhers* of fang'd bacon on the coals. *Dryden.*
Quenches his thirst with ale in nut-brown bowls,
And takes the hafty *rafher* from the coals. *King.*
RA'SHLY. *adv.* [from *raf*.] Haftily; violently; without due
confideration.
This expedition was by York and Talbot
Too *rafhly* plotted. *Shakefp. Henry VI. p. i.*
Men are not *rafhly* to take that for done, which is not
done. *Bacon's Natural History.*
He that doth any thing *rafhly*, must do it willingly; for he
was free to deliberate or not. *L'Estrange's Fables.*
Declare the secret villain,
The wretch so meanly bafe to injure Phædra,
So *rafhly* brave to dare the sword of Thefeus. *Smith.*
RA'SHNESS. *n. f.* [from *raf*.] Foolish contempt of danger;
inconfiderate heat of temper; precipitation; temerity.
Who feeth not what sentence it fhall enforce us to give
againft all churches in the world; in as much as there is not
one, but hath had many things eftablished in it, which though
the fcripture did never command, yet for us to condemn were
rafhnefs. *Hooker, b. iii. f. 6.*
Nature to youth hot *rafhnefs* doth difpence,
But with cold prudence age doth recompence. *Denham.*
In fo fpeaking, we offend indeed againft truth; yet we
offend not properly by falshood, which is a fpeaking againft
our thoughts; but by *rafhnefs*, which is an affirming or de-
nying, before we have fufficiently informed ourfelves. *South.*
The vain Morat by his own *rafhnefs* wrought,
Toofoon difcover'd his ambitious thought,
Believ'd me his, becaufe I fpoke him fair. *Dryden.*
RASP. *n. f.* [*rafpo*, Italian.] A delicious berry that grows on
a fpecies of the bramble; a raspberry.
Sorrel fet amongft *rafps*, and the *rafps* will be the fmaller.
Bacon's Natural History.
Now will the corinths, now the *rafps* fupply
Delicious draughts, when preft to wines. *Philips.*
To RASP. *v. a.* [*rafpen*, Dutch; *rafper*, Fr. *rafpare*, Italian.]
To rub to powder with a very rough file.
Some authors have advifed the *rafping* of thefe bones; but
in this cafe it is needlefs. *Wifeman's Surgery.*
Having prepared hard woods and ivory for the lathe with
rafping, they pitch it between the pikes. *Moxon.*
RASP. *n. f.* [from the verb.] A large rough file, commonly
ufed to wear away wood.
Cafe-hardening is ufed by file-cutters, when they make
coarfe files, and generally moft *rafps* have formerly been made
of iron and cafe-hardened. *Moxon's Mechanical Exercifes.*
RA'SPATORY. *n. f.* [*rafpatoir*, Fr. from *raf*.] A chirurgon's
raf.
I put into his mouth a *rafpatory*, and pulled away the cor-
rupt flefh, and with cauteries burnt it to a cruft. *Wifeman's Surgery.*
RA'SPBERRY, or *Rafberry*. *n. f.* A kind of berry.
Rafberries are of three forts; the common wild one, the
large red garden *rafberry*, which is one of the pleafanteft
of fruits, and the white, which is little inferior to the
red. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
RASPBERRY-BUSH. *n. f.* A fpecies of bramble.
RA'SURE. *n. f.* [*rafura*, Lat.]
1. The act of fcraping or shaving.
2. A mark in a writing where fomething has been rubbed out.
Such a writing ought to be free from any vituperation of
rafure. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*
RAT. *n. f.* [*ratte*, Dutch; *rat*, Fr. *ratta*, Spanifh.] An animal
of the moufe kind that infefts houfes and fhips.
Our natures do purfue,
Like *rats* that ravin down their proper bane. *Shakefp.*
Make you ready your ftiff bats and clubs,
Rome and her *rats* are at the point of battle. *Shakefp.*
I have feen the time, with my long fword I would have
made you four tall fellows fkip like *rats*. *Shakefp.*
Thus horfes will knable at walls, and *rats* will gnaw
iron. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
If in defpair he goes out of the way like a *rat* with a dofe
of arfenick, why he dies nobly. *Dennis.*

RAT

To fnell a RAT. To be put on the watch by fufpicion as the
cat by the fcent of a rat; to fufpect danger.
Quoth Hudibras, I fnell a rat, *Hudibras, p. i.*
Ralpho, thou doft prevaricate.
RATABLE. *adj.* [from *rate*.] Set at a certain value.
The Danes brought in a reckoning of money by ores, per
oras; I collect out of the abby-book of Burton, that twenty
ores were *ratable* to two marks of filver. *Camden's Remains.*
RAT'ABLY. *adv.* Proportionably.
Many times there is no proportion of fhut and powder al-
lowed *ratably* by that quantity of the great ordnance. *Raleigh.*
RATA'RIA. *n. f.* A fine liquor, prepared from the kernels of
apricots and fpirits. *Bailey.*
RATA'N. *n. f.* An Indian cane. *Ditt.*
RATCH. *n. f.* In clockwork, a fort of wheel, which ferves
to lift up the detents every hour, and thereby make
the clock ftrike. *Bailey.*
RATE. *n. f.* [*ratu*, Lat. *rate*, old Fr.]
1. Price fixed on any thing.
How many things do we value, becaufe they come at dear
rates from Japan and China, which if they were our own
manufacture, common to be had, and for a little money,
would be neglected? *Locke.*
I'll not betray the glory of my name,
'Tis not for me, who have prefer'd a ftate,
To buy an empire at fo bafe a rate. *Dryden.*
The price of land has never changed, in the feveral changes
have been made in the rate of intereft by law; nor now that
the rate of intereft is by law the fame, is the price of land
every where the fame. *Locke.*
2. Allowance fetted.
His allowance was a continual allowance, a daily rate for
every day. *2 Kings xxv. 30.*
They obliged themfelves to remit after the rate of twelve
hundred thoufand pounds fterling per annum, divided into
many monthly payments. *Addifon.*
3. Degree; comparative height or valour.
I am a fpirit of no common rate;
The fummer ftill doth tend upon my ftate. *Shakefp.*
I have difabled mine eftate,
By fhewing fomething a more fwelling port,
Than my faint means would grant continuance;
Nor do I now make moan to be abridged
From fuch a noble rate. *Shakefp. Merchant of Venice.*
In this did his holinefs and godlinefs appear above the rate
and pitch of other mens, in that he was fo infinitely mer-
ciful. *Calamy's Sermons.*
To which relation whatfoever is done agreeably, is mo-
rally and essentially good; and whatfoever is done otherwife,
is at the fame rate morally evil. *South.*
4. Quantity affignable.
In goodly form comes on the enemy;
And by the ground they hide, I judge their number
Upon or near the rate of thirty thoufand. *Shakefp.*
5. That which fets value.
Heretofore the rate and ftandard of wit was very different
from what it is now-a-days: no man was then accounted a
wit for fpeaking fuch things, as deferved to have the tongue
cut out. *South's Sermons.*
A virtuous heathen is, at this rate, as happy as a virtuous
chriftian. *Atterbury.*
6. Manner of doing any thing; degree to which any thing is
done.
Many of the horfe could not march at that rate, nor come
upfoon enough. *Clarendon, b. viii.*
Tom hinting his diflike of fome trifles his miftrefs had faid,
fhe asked him how he would talk to her after marriage, if he
talked at this rate before? *Addifon.*
7. Tax impofed by the parifh.
They paid the church and parifh rate,
And took, but read not the receipt. *Prior.*
To RATE. *v. a.* [from the noun.]
1. To value at a certain price.
I freely told you, all the wealth I had
Ran in my veins, I was a gentleman;
And yet, dear lady,
Rating myfelf as nothing, you fhall fee
How much I was a braggart. *Shakefp. Merch. of Venice.*
We may there be intructed, how to name and rate all
goods, by thofe that will concentrate into felicity. *Boyle.*
You feem not high enough your joys to rate,
You ftand indebted a vaft fum to fate,
And fhould large thanks for the great bleffing pay. *Dryden.*
2. [Reita, Ilandick.] To chide haftily and vehemently.
Go rate thy minions, proud infulting boy,
Becomes it thee to be thus bold in terms
Before thy fovereign. *Shakefp. Henry VI. p. iii.*
An old lord of the council rated me the other day in the
ftreet about you, Sir. *Shakefp. Henry IV. p. i.*
What is all that a man enjoys, from a year's converfe,
comparable to what he feels for one hour, when his confidence
fhall take him afide and rate him by himfelf. *South.*

RAT

If words are fometimes to be ufed, they ought to be grave,
kind and fober, representing the ill or unbecomingnefs of the
faults, rather than a hafty rating of the child for it. *Locke.*
RATH. *n. f.* A hill. I know not whence derived.
There is a great ufe among the Irifh, to make great af-
femblies together upon a *rath* or hill, there to parly about
matters and wrongs between townfhips or private perfons.
Spenser on Ireland.
RATH. *adv.* Early.
Thus is my fummer worn away and wafed,
Thus is my harveft haftened all too *rath*,
The ear, that budded fair, is burnt and blafed,
And all my hoped gain is turn'd to fcathe. *Spenser.*
Strong Lagrean wines
Rath ripe and purple grapes there be. *May's Virgil.*
Rath ripe are fome, and fome of later kind,
Of golden fome, and fome of purple kind. *May's Virgil.*
RATH. *adj.* [nað, Saxon, quickly.] Early; coming before
the time.
Bring the *rath* primrofe that forfaken dies,
The tufted crow-toe and pale jeflamine. *Milton.*
RATH'ER. *adv.* [this is a comparative from *rath*; nað, Saxon,
foon. Now out of ufe. One may ftill fay, by the fame
form of fpeaking, I will fooner do this than that; that is, I
like better to do this.]
1. More willingly; with better liking.
Almighty God defireth not the death of a finner, but ra-
ther that he fhould turn from his wickednefs and live. *Common Prayer.*
2. Preferably to the other; with better reafon.
'Tis rather to be thought, that an heir had no fuch right
by divine inftitution, than that God fhould give fuch a right,
but yet leave it undetermined who fuch heir is. *Locke.*
3. In a greater degree than otherwife.
He fought through the world, but fought in vain,
And no where finding, rather fear'd her flain. *Dryden.*
4. More properly.
This is an art,
Which does mend nature, change it rather, but
The art itfelf is nature. *Shakefp. Winter's Tale.*
5. Efppecially.
You are come to me in a happy time,
The rather for I have fome fport in hand. *Shakefp.*
6. To have RATHER. [this is, I think, a barbarous expreffion
of late intrufion into our language, for which it is better to
fay will rather.] To defire in preference.
'Tis with reluctance he is provoked by our impenitence to
apply the difcipline of feverity and correction; he had rather
mankind fhould adore him as their patron and benefactor.
Rogers's Sermons.
RATIFICATION. *n. f.* [*ratification*, Fr. from *ratify*.] The act
of ratifying; confirmation.
RATIFIER. *n. f.* [from *ratify*.] The perfon or thing that
ratifies.
They cry, "chufe we Laertes for our king?"
The ratifiers and props of every word,
Caps, hands and tongues applaud it to the clouds. *Shakefp.*
To RATIFY. *v. a.* [*ratum facio*, Latin.] To confirm; to
fettle.
The church being a body which dieth not, hath always
power, as occafion requireth, no lefs to ordain that which
never was, than to *ratify* what hath been before. *Hooker.*
By the help of thefe, with him above
To *ratify* the work, we may again
Give to our tables meat, fleep to our nights. *Shakefp.*
We have *ratified* unto them the borders of Judæa. *1 Mac.*
God *ratified* their prayers by the judgment they brought
down upon the head of him, whom they prayed againft.
South.
Tell me, my friend, from whence had'ft thou the fkill,
So nicely to diftinguifh good from ill?
And what thou art to follow, what to fly,
This to condemn, and that to *ratify*? *Dryden.*
RATIO. *n. f.* [Latin.] Proportion.
Whatever inclinations the rays have to the plane of inci-
dence, the fine of the angle of incidence of every ray con-
fidered apart, fhall have to the fine of the angle of refraction
a conftant ratio. *Cheyne's Philofophical Principles.*
To RATIOCINATE. *v. n.* [*ratiocinor*, Lat.] To reafon;
to argue.
RATIOCINATION. *n. f.* [*ratiocinatio*, Lat.] The act of rea-
foning; the act of deducing confequences from premifes.
In fimple terms, expreffing the open notions of things,
which the fecond act of reafon compoundeth into pro-
pofitions, and the laft into fyllogifms and forms of *ratio*-
cination. *Brown.*
Can any kind of *ratio*cination allow Chrift all the marks of
the Mefiah, and yet deny him to be the Mefiah? *South.*
Such an infcription would be felf-evident without any *ra*-
tio-cination or ftudy, and could not fail conftantly to exert its
energy in their minds. *Bentley.*

RAT

RATIO'CINATIVE. *adj.* [from *ratio*cinate.] Argumentative;
advancing by procefs of difcourfe.
Some confequens are fo intimately and evidently connexed
to, or found in the premifes, that the conclufion is attained
quafi per faltum, and without any thing of *ratio*cinative pro-
cefs, even as the eye fees his object immediately, and without
any previous difcourfe. *Hale's Origin of Mankind.*
RATIONAL. *adj.* [*rationalis*, Latin.]
1. Having the power of reafoning.
2. Agreeable to reafon.
What higher in her fociety thou find'ft
Attractive, humane, *rational*, love ftill. *Milton.*
When the conclufion is deduced from the unerring dictates
of our faculties, we fay the inference is *rational*. *Glarvill.*
If your arguments be *rational*, offer them in as moving a
manner as the nature of the fubject will admit; but beware
of letting the pathetick part fwallow up the *rational*. *Swift.*
3. Wife; judicious: as, a *rational* man.
RATIONAL'LE. *n. f.* [from *ratio*, Lat.] A detail with reafons:
as, Dr. Sparrow's *Rationale of the Common Prayer*.
RATIONALIST. *n. f.* [from *rational*.] One who proceeds in
his difquifitions and practice wholly upon reafon.
He often ufed this comparifon; the empirical philofophers
are like to pifmires; they only lay up and ufe their ftore:
the *rationalifts* are like to fpiders; they fpin all out of their
own bowels: but give me a philofopher, who, like the bee,
hath a middle faculty, gathering from abroad, but difgifting
that which is gathered by his own virtue. *Bacon.*
RATIONALITY. *n. f.* [from *rational*.]
1. The power of reafoning.
When God has made *rationality* the common portion of
mankind, how came it to be thy inclofure? *Gov. of the Tong.*
2. Reafonablenefs.
In human occurrences, there have been many well directed
intentions, whole *rationalities* will never bear a rigid exami-
nation. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
RATIONALLY. *adv.* [from *rational*.] Reafonably; with
reafon.
Upon the propofal of an agreeable object, it may *rational*ly
be conjectured, that a man's choice will rather incline him to
accept than to refufe it. *South.*
RATIONALNESS. *n. f.* [from *rational*.] The ftate of being
rational.
RA'TSBANE. *n. f.* [*rat* and *bane*.] Poison for rats; arfenick.
Poor Tom! that hath laid knives under his pillow, and
halters in his pew, fet *ratfbane* by his porridge. *Shakefp.*
He would throw *ratfbane* up and down a houfe, where chil-
dren might come at it. *L'Estrange.*
When murder's out, what vice can we advance?
Unless the new-found pois'ning trick of France;
And when their art of *ratfbane* we have got,
By way of thanks, we'll fend 'em o'er our plot. *Dryden.*
I can hardly believe the relation of his being poifoned, but
fack might do it, though *ratfbane* would not. *Swift to Pope.*
RA'TTEEN. *n. f.* A kind of ftuff.
We'll ring in Meath-ftreet Egypt's haughty queen,
And Anthony fhall court her in *ratteen*. *Swift.*
To RA'TTLE. *v. n.* [*ratelen*, Dutch.]
1. To make a quick fharp noife with frequent repetitions and
collifions of bodies not very fonorous: when bodies are fo-
norous, it is called *jingling*.
The quiver *rattled* againft him. *Job xxxix. 23.*
The noife of a whip, of the rattling of the wheels, of
prancing horfes, and of the jumping chariots. *Nab. iii. 2.*
They had, to affright the enemies horfes, big rattles co-
vered with parchment, and fmall ftones within; but the
rattling of fhut might have done better fervice. *Hayward.*
He was too warm on picking work to dwell;
He fagoted his notions as they fell,
And if they rhym'd and *rattled* all was well. *Dryden.*
There the affembles all her blackeft ftorms,
And the rude hail in *rattling* tempeft forms. *Addifon.*
2. To fpeak eagerly and noifily.
With jealous eyes at diftance fhe had feen
Whifp'ring with Jove the filver-footed queen;
Then, impotent of tongue, her fentence broke,
Thus turbulent in *rattling* tone fhe fpoke. *Dryden.*
He is a man of pleafure, and a free-thinker; he is an af-
fector of liberty and property; he rattles it out againft
popery. *Swift.*
To RATTLE. *v. a.*
1. To move any thing fo as to make a rattle or noife.
Her chains the rattles, and her whip the fhakes. *Dryden.*
2. To ftun with a noife; to drive with a noife.
Sound but another, and another fhall,
As loud as thine, rattle the welkin's ear,
And mock the deep-mouth'd thunder. *Shakefp.*
He fhould be well enough able to fcatter the Irifh as a flight
of birds, and rattle away this fwarm of bees with their
king. *Bacon's Henry VII.*